PFC Assistance for Power Generating Units

4087. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU) : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation have a policy for advancing money for setting up of power generation units in the various States; and

(b) if so, who decides this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has a policy for Financing Power Generation units in various States. The operations of PFC are guided by the "Operational Policy Statement" (OPS) approved by its Board of Directors. The latest OPS was approved by the Board of Directors in September, 1998.

Declining Trend of Rural Electrification

4088. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified during the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans, separately, State-wise;

(b) the number of villages covered during the first year of the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a declining trend in the area of rural electrification;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to reverse the trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) State-wise details of the number of villages electrified during the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans separately are given in the Statement-I (*See* p. 156).

(b) The number of villages electrified during the first year, i.e. 1997-98 of the Ninth Five Year Plan State-wise are given at Statement-II (*See* p. 156).

(c) As compared to the 8th Plan, there has been some decline in the progress of village electrification during the 9th Plan. Many of the villages that

remain to be electrified are in remote and inaccessible areas. State Electricity Boards find it uneconomical to electrify these villages. In addition, paucity of concessional resources has also affected the village electrification programme.

(d) and (e)- Ministry of Finance has proposed to release funds for rural electrification directly to the State which were earlier being routed through Rural Electrification Corporation (REC). Further, to give boost to electrification programme in tribal villages and dalit bastis and other weaker sections, Government of India has recently decided to grant interest subsidy of Rs. 16.67 crores for electrification of 415 tribal villages and 2440 dalit bastis during the year 2000-2001. Government has also decided to set up a group of Ministers (GoM) to review the existing schemes relating to electrification of tribal villages, dalit bastis and benefiting other weaker sections and suggest modifications for accelerating the pace of electrification so that they enjoy the benefit of electrification to the same extent as other areas/sections of the population.

STATEMENT-I

Villages Electrified during Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Sixth (1971 Census)	Seventh (1981 Census)	Eighth (1981 Census)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6419	4504	(*)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	$	534	756
3.	Assam	7580	9178	553
4.	Bihar	13952	12798	592
5.	Goa	$	23	(*)
6.	Gujarat	5268	1757	(*)
7.	Haryana	(*)	(+)14	(*)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5693	2147	(*)
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1153	412	131

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Karnataka	7363	2854	(*)
11.	Kerala	(*)	(-)49	(*)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	18425	19552	3278
13.	Maharashtra	7761	5888	(*)
14.	Manipur	280	655	519
15.	Meghalaya	716	908	152
16.	Mizoram	$	273	219
17.	Nagaland	360	419	NIL
18.	Orissa	6531	6324	2126
19.	Punjab	(*)	(+)216	(*)
20.	Rajasthan	5945	6402	3503
21.	Sikkim	136	174	(*)
22.	Tamil Nadu	150	(+)113	(*)
23.	Tripura	1099	763	672
24.	Uttar Pradesh	24498	17283	4752
25.	West Bengal	6338	7191	1251
	TOTAL (STATES)	119667	100333	18504
	TOTAL UTs	866	173	(*)
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	120533	100506	18504

(*) Cent per cent electrification of villages have already achieved.

Note : (+) & (-) Signs against the figure show the increase/decrease on account of changes in total number of inhabited villages in 1981 census.

$ Achivement included in Total (UTs)

(*Source* : CEA)

STATEMENT-II

Progress of Village Electrification during 1997-98, i.e. the First Year of IXth Five Year Plan (1991 Census)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1997-98 Achievement
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	@
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	38
3.	Assam	20
4.	Bihar	5
5.	Goa	$
6.	Gujarat	9
7.	Haryana	@
8.	Himachal Pradesh	139
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14
10.	Karnataka	Nil
11.	Kerala	@
12.	Madhya Pradesh	463
13.	Maharashtra	$
14.	Manipur	52
15.	Meghalaya	43
16.	Mizoram	12
17.	Nagaland	Nil
18.	Orissa	800
19.	Punjab	@
20.	Rajasthan	698

1	2	3
21.	Sikkim	$
22.	Tamil Nadu	@
23.	Tripura	15
24.	Uttar Pradesh	851
25.	West Bengal	48
	TOTAL (STATES)	3207
	TOTAL UTs	@
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	3207

@Cent per cent villages electrified.

$ Cent per cent villages electrified as per 1981 census.

(Source : CEA).

Eastern Region States Opposing Draft Electricity Bill

4089. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred question 2863 given in Rajya Sabha on 19th April, 2000 and state:

(a) whether the Eastern Region States are opposing the draft legislation on electricity and suggested some amendments to it;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Central Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The draft electricity Bill, 2000 as submitted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has been circulated to all concerned. From the Eastern Region, comments have been received from State of Orissa and the Eastern Regional Electricity Board (EREB), Calcutta. The Government of Orissa have made suggestions on the matters relating to the powers to issue policy guidelines involving public interest, on provisions relating to subsidy to the utilities etc. The Eastern Regional Electricity Board, Calcutta have observed, *inter alia*, that